

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.-76. (Cancelled)

77. (Previously Presented) A scissors-like surgical forceps comprising:
a pair of forcep arms;
a pivot joint connecting the forcep arms intermediate their ends;
each forcep arm on one side of the pivot joint comprising a blade;
each forcep arm on the other side of the pivot joint comprising a handle;
the forcep arms being cranked adjacent the pivot joint whereby the handles are splayed apart with the blades in engagement; and

a guide blade mounted on the pivot joint, the guide blade extending rearwardly of the pivot joint and terminating in a bifurcated portion, each bifurcated arm of said bifurcated portion carries a drain gripper of arcuate shape, the bifurcated arms can be urged apart to receive a length of tubing and form releasable grip means.

78. (Previously Presented) A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 77, in which the bifurcated arms cross intermediate their ends when an intercostal drain is not mounted therein.

79. (Original) A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 77, in which the handles are spring urged apart.

80. (Original) A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 77, in which a spring is mounted between each handle and the guide blade to urge the handles away from the guide blade and thus apart.

81. (Previously Presented) A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 77, in which the guide blade lies below the other blades on the pivot joint.

82. (Previously Presented) A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 77, in which the guide blade lies between the other two blades on the pivot joint.

83. (Previously Presented) A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 77, in which the guide blade extends forward from the pivot joint substantially the same distance from the pivot joint as the other blades.

84. (Original) A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 77, in which the guide blade is substantially flat, tapers towards its free end and carries a pivot pin to form the pivot joint.

85. (Previously Presented) A scissors-like surgical forceps comprising:
a pair of forcep arms;
a pivot joint connecting the forcep arms intermediate their ends;
each forcep arm on one side of the pivot joint comprising a blade;
each forcep arm on the other side of the pivot joint comprising a handle;
the forcep arms being cranked adjacent the pivot joint whereby the handles are splayed apart with the blades in engagement;

a tube gripping means for releasably securing the exterior of a length of tubing mounted on the pivot joint, whereby the length of tubing is held spaced-apart from and rearwardly of the blades when the blades are being inserted into a patient; and

a guide blade mounted on the pivot joint, the guide blade extending substantially the same distance from the pivot joint as the other blades, and the guide blade extending rearwardly of the pivot joint and terminating in a bifurcated portion, each bifurcated arm of said bifurcated portion carries a drain gripper of arcuate shape which can be urged apart to receive the tubing and form

the tube gripping means.

86. (Previously Presented) A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 85, in which the bifurcated arms cross intermediate their ends when an intercostal drain is not mounted therein.

87. (Original) A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 85, in which the handles are spring urged apart.